

## Iron County Register

BY ELI D. AKE.  
IRONTON, MISSOURI.

### NEWS AND NOTES.

#### A Summary of Important Events.

THE Governor of Mississippi has appealed for aid in behalf of the flood victims in the Yazoo delta.

COL. S. B. HALABIRD is to take charge of the Quartermaster-General's office in Washington.

It is reported from Berlin that Germany and Austria have ordered the strengthening of the eastern fortresses.

TWENTY more indictments charging conspiracy and perjury have been returned in the straw bond cases at Washington.

THE Utah contested election case came before the House committee on the 24th, and the seat was declared vacant.

THE Secretary of War has ordered 100,000 rations sent from St. Louis for the relief of sufferers in Mississippi and Arkansas lowlands.

THE Mayor of Rockford, Ill., has called out the citizens to search for H. W. Loomis, a prominent pioneer, who mysteriously disappeared some days ago.

GENERAL RUCHE, recently appointed Quartermaster of the United States Army, has been placed on the retired list and General Rufus Ingalls appointed to the vacancy.

SECRETARY HUNT and the naval committee in Congress are to visit four navy yards and inspect the monitors stored there, in order to decide the question of rebuilding them at a cost of \$4,000,000.

CAPT. EADS has convinced the House Committee on Levees and Improvements that Cowdon's outlet system won't do for the Mississippi. He does not recommend the construction of levees, but thinks those already made should be utilized and the gaps closed.

THE special committee to audit the bills connected with President Garfield's death recommended \$25,000 for Dr. Bliss, \$15,000 each for Drs. Agnew and Hamilton, \$15,000 each for Drs. Reymann and Boynton, \$5,000 for Mrs. Edison, and \$3,000 for Steward Crump.

WATMOUGH and Stevenson, whose nominations for Paymaster-General and Pay-Director in the Navy were reported adversely by the Senate Naval Committee, are bringing to bear strong special and personal influence upon Senators for the purpose of reversing the committee's recommendation.

THE State of Pennsylvania claims from the Standard Oil Company no less than \$3,145,000 for taxes, interest, and penalties, and suit has been instituted at Harrisburg. The company's counsel admits that its dividends for seven years were over \$10,000,000, and that its assets aggregate \$30,000,000. The question is whether the State has power to tax the entire capital stock of an interstate corporation.

THE committee endeavoring to relieve sufferers by the fire at Haverhill, Mass., have issued an address in which they say: "The emergency is imperative. Hundreds of our fellow-citizens are out of work, with no means of subsistence, and many have no tools with which to resume labor when opportunity shall offer. We therefore make an earnest appeal for contributions to aid us in the work of disbursement among the worthy applicants who are crowding upon us for relief. Any sum, large or small, sent to John L. Hobson, treasurer, or to any member of the executive committee, will be gratefully received and promptly acknowledged."

GARFIELD memorial services were held in Central Music Hall, Chicago, on the 27th. The hall was appropriately trimmed with flowers and draped flags, and immediately back of the platform was a large portrait of the late President. Among the floral decorations was a wreath sent by Queen Victoria and the emblem from the Empress of Brazil. The meeting was presided over by Gen. James B. Leake, United States District Attorney. Mr. E. A. Storrs eulogized Garfield's eventful and wonderful life, and told how he advanced step by step by sheer force of his intellect, reinforced by his spotless conscience, from an humble rank in life to the loftiest summit of honor and achievement. Speaking of him as a politician, Mr. Storrs said he used the party not as an end, but as a means to an end. He was never owned or controlled by a machine, but was too practical a statesman not to know that in church and state an intelligently controlled machine is indispensable to success. "He perished," said the orator, in conclusion, "with the conflicts of temporary excitement raging around him, involving more of persons than of principles. The whole world loved him because he loved the whole world."

THE nomination of ex-Senator Conkling, of New York, to fill the vacancy on the Supreme Court bench caused by the retirement of Mr. Justice Hunt created quite a stir in Washington. When it was learned that ex-Senator Sargent had been selected for the vacant mission at Berlin instead of, as had been generally believed, the portfolio of the Interior Department, the astonishment and comment was increased. Although the Senate held an executive session, when it adjourned the names were not found in the list of confirmations, and considerable disappointment was manifested by the throng waiting patiently in the corridors to obtain first tidings of such action, for it has been the custom hitherto to confirm an ex-member of the Senate without question. It was rumored that objection had been raised to the present consideration of the new candidates, and straightway an effort was made to find out from whom the objection had emanated. The subject was discussed in all its bearings in the hotel lobbies and other places of public resort, but speculation grew wilder the more it was discussed. It is doubtful if any event has caused more talk since Mr. Conkling's retirement from the Senate. Reports were current that Senator Hoar made a bitter assault upon Mr. Conkling in executive session. He reviewed his political career and charged that he was not a fit man for the place on the Supreme Bench. This attack was most vigorous, and was a complete surprise to his fellow Senators.

#### PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

JAMES JOYCE, aged 65 years, was fatally shot by Geo. W. Blunt, aged 30, at the latter's home on the Corydon turnpike, near New Albany, Ind., the other day.

J. W. CURTIS, private secretary to General Manager Finney, of the Wisconsin Central Railway, Milwaukee, committed suicide by shooting, Feb. 25th. The loss of a child is supposed to have caused the act.

WILLIAM LEET, age 12, was cut in two by a coil of wire in a needle factory at Newark, N. J., Feb. 25th.

MASKED vandals attempted to destroy the press and material in the Independent office, Wahoo, Saunders County, Neb., on the 26th. One of the publishers and a son of the editor objected, but were overpowered and disarmed. The intruders, fearing discovery, then retired. The outrage is said to have grown out of a local political quarrel.

A NEW five-story brick building on Second street, St. Louis, Mo., occupied by the grocery house of Kraft, Holmes & Co., suddenly fell in, the other morning, burying goods valued at \$70,000.

A SNOW-SLIDE in Big Cottonwood Canyon, Utah, buried a woodchopper and his wife and five children. The bodies were recovered, lying naturally in bed.

LOSSES by the recent fire in Conway, Ark., are estimated at \$100,000.

A BELGIAN just arrived at Castle Garden, New York City, has a pair of horns an inch long protruding from his forehead.

A SAN FRANCISCO police court yesterday morning by Officer Maroney, who deliberately walked up to a lawyer, D. B. Murphy, and shot him in the neck, inflicting a dangerous wound. The shooting was the result of grossly insulting language used by Murphy against Maroney in a case which has been on trial for several weeks. On being shot Murphy rose in his chair, swayed to and fro, and with blood gushing from a gaping gash in the neck, exclaimed: "The curse of God be upon you. You have murdered me for defending a man whom I know to be innocent."

JUDGE TORRENCE, a distinguished lawyer of Montreal, has decided that a New York divorce is legal in Canada.

AN immense audience witnessed the opening of the pedestrian contest in Gilmore's Garden, New York City.

THE wholesale dry-goods house of Menken Brothers, at Memphis, Tenn., has made an assignment to cover liabilities of \$500,000.

THE exports of breadstuffs from the United States for the month of January last amounted in value to \$11,928,992, against \$14,929,406 in 1881.

MRS. VICKER, of Scott County, Va., and three children were recently thrown into a swollen stream by the tumbling of a horse. John Tugate not only stood on the bank apathetically watching the desperate struggles of the woman and her little ones to save themselves, but prevented two other males from rendering the slightest assistance. The cries of the woman finally reached the ears of a man at work in a field near by, who arrived in time to save her and two children. The infant had been swept down the stream and drowned before the man could plunge in and save it. The explanation of Tugate's heartless conduct is that her husband, a few years ago, murdered his brother.

JENNIE WESTBROOK, a young woman recently arrested in New York City for masquerading in male habiliments, has been sent to Ward's Island. Her case, however, has awakened deep interest, since it only seems to be due to an effort to escape from that bondage which social laws have subjected the sex. Her excuse was that she could make \$20 a week in her disguise, while as a "saleslady" in a fashionable store the pay would be only one-third of that amount.

THE Union Oil and Soap Company, Cincinnati, O., lost \$100,000 by fire the other day. A fireman was seriously injured by falling from a ladder.

#### FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

THE bill placing Gen. Grant on the retired list, with an amendment by Mr. Sherman making the retirement additional to the amount already authorized by the Senate on the 24th, by a vote 35 to 17, all the Republicans voting for it, with Brown of Georgia, Davis of Illinois, and Ransom of North Carolina. The remaining Democrats voted against it. Mr. Logan retired from the Senate to vote for the resolution introduced early in the day by Mr. George for the relief of destitute persons in the districts flooded by the Mississippi and its tributaries. A substitute authorizing the expenditure of \$100,000 by the Secretary of War, in cooperation with the State, to perform the service, the Postmaster-General may declare the original contract at an end, and enter into agreement with the sub-contractor, without advertising, to perform the service on the terms at which he has agreed with the original contractor to perform the same. Mr. Atkins offered an amendment, providing the sub-contractor shall enter into a contract with the original contractor, and that the original contractor shall not be released from his contract until bond has been made by the sub-contractor. The amendment, when amended, was agreed to—39 to 33. The \$100,000 relief measure passed without question.

A RESOLUTION by Mr. Davis, of West Virginia, reconstituting the Committee on Military Affairs to inquire into the expediency of giving more aid than is now provided to the various States and Territories in order to promote and encourage the organization of the militia forces of the country and strengthen their efficiency, was adopted on the 24th. Mr. Van Wyck urged investigation of alleged frauds in the township survey system. He said savorers general and other Government officials had combined to make surveys of worthless lands, and then to use the scrip they would get in return for deposits for surveys to purchase the most valuable Government lands of the West. Deposits amounted last year to about \$2,000,000, but most of the surveys were worthless to the Government because of the worthless-ness of the lands surveyed. Referred to Committee on Public Lands. The immediate deficiency appropriation bill was further amended and passed without opposition. After execution of the Senate adjourned until the 27th. In the House, Mr. Belmont offered a resolution directing the Committee on Foreign Affairs to inquire into the propriety of certain letters and documents referred to in the letter of the Secretary of State, Feb. 17. Mr. Kasson offered as a substitute the following:

It is alleged, in connection with the Chile-Peruvian correspondence recently and officially published on call of the two Houses of Congress, that one or more Peruvian plenipotentiaries of the United States were either personally interested or improperly connected with a business transaction in which the intervention of this Government was requested or expected; and whereas, it is alleged that certain of the plenipotentiaries named have been improperly sent or removed from the files of the State Department; therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Committee on Foreign Affairs be instructed to inquire into said allegations and ascertain the facts relating thereto and report the same, with such recommendations as may be deemed proper.

Mr. Belmont accepted the substituted resolution, and the House adjourned for one day.

#### LATE NEWS ITEMS.

MR. MILLER, of California, spoke on the Chinese immigration bill to carry into effect the treaty by suspending the coming of Chinese laborers for twenty years, after sixty days succeeding the passage of the act, in the Senate, Feb. 28.

MR. NEW, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury, spoke upon the discharge of his duties on the 28th.

JAMES B. MANTHOPE was arraigned in a New York police court the other day for appropriating \$3,000 belonging to a person for whom he had sold Peruvian bonds. He said his arrest grew out of a conspiracy to prevent his giving evidence against the manipulators of the Peruvian scheme.

A BOY named James Brett was seriously injured by an explosion of gas in the Union Building, Chicago, Feb. 27th. James lit a match in a vault where gas had been escaping for some time. The building was badly damaged; heavy plate-glass windows were blown into fragments, doors were demolished, and much plaster-work was powdered.

A LITTLE son of John Phillips, living near Shelbyville, Ky., pulled a kettle of boiling water from the stove, a few days ago, and was fatally scalded.

THOMAS HOFFMAN and Joseph Watson, employed at the Eckert ore mine, Reading, Pa., were recently killed by an explosion of fire-damp.

EMMETT BROWN, a young man employed in Hanson & Scove's sawmill, Manitowish, Wis., met a horrible fate the other day. Attempting to put a belt on while the machinery was in motion, he was caught by a pulley and carried around at a frightful speed, each revolution bringing him nearer to the floor. His head was literally battered to pieces before the machinery could be stopped.

WM. HAWLEY, aged 13, was accidentally shot and killed by Tim McCalliff, near Maysville, Ky., on the night of the 27th. The Hawley family had become alarmed at some one trying to force an entrance into their dwelling, and had sent the boy for assistance to McCalliff. In taking up his gun to go with him it was accidentally discharged.

A FREIGHT CAR loaded with brick was ditched near Joliet, Ill., Feb. 27th. Ten tramps were secreted in the van at the time. Two were killed outright and the others were badly injured. The names of the unfortunate are unknown.

THE dry goods house of E. Malley, New Haven, Conn., burned on the 28th. The loss on building and stock is estimated at \$100,000.

TEN nihilist prisoners, including one woman, have been sentenced to death at St. Petersburg. The remainder were sentenced to various terms of servitude.

#### THE GARFIELD CEREMONIES.

THE galleries of the House of Representatives were filled to the utmost capacity at an early hour on the morning of the 27th, a majority of the spectators being ladies. Before 10 o'clock admission to the Capitol was refused to all save members of the two Houses of Congress and their employees, but at that hour the galleries were thrown open to persons holding tickets to the memorial services of the late James A. Garfield. There were no signs of mourning in the hall. A full length portrait of the late President was hung just back of the chairs of the presiding officer, being in the center of the lobby back of the Speaker's desk the Marine Band was stationed, and at intervals until noon discoursed solemn music. Among the distinguished guests were Judge Bancroft, Cyrus W. Field, Admiral Worden, Gen. Schenck, Governors Hoyt of Pennsylvania, Foster of Ohio, Hamilton of Maryland, and Bligden of the Connecticut. At 11:30 Gen. Sherman, Sheridan, Hancock, Howard and Meigs and Admirals Hammen, Rogers and Rodgers entered and were assigned seats to the left of the Speaker's desk, and a few moments later members of the diplomatic corps, in full regalia, were ushered in, headed by the Hawaiian Minister as Dean of the corps. Their brilliant costumes only served to throw into stronger relief the dark attire of the members of Congress who sat immediately behind them. The Supreme Court of the District, headed by Mr. Chief Justice, were the next arrivals. Mr. Blaine was also in attendance. Mrs. Blaine occupied a front seat in the gallery reserved for friends of the President. At precisely 12 o'clock the House was called to order by Speaker Keifer, who, in prayer, was offered by Mr. Chas. H. Lakin. The Speaker then said: "This day has been dedicated by the action of the two Houses of Congress to services in commemoration of the life and death of James Abram Garfield, late President of the United States. This House is now assembled and ready to perform its part." The resolutions setting apart the day for the services were then read by Clerk McPherson. At 12:10 the Senators entered and took their assigned seats, followed by the Chief Justice and Associate Justices of the Supreme Court, and the President of the United States and his Cabinet. The President took a front seat on the right of the presiding officer's chair. At 12:30 the orator of day, Davis, Mr. Blaine took the position at the Speaker's desk, immediately in front of the two presiding officers, and proceeded to deliver an impressive address, reading from manuscript. He was called to order by Speaker Keifer, who listened to him with the most profound attention, and at the close of his speech he reached that portion of his speech in which he alluded to the causes which led to the death of the late President. He was a little strained in the intensity of feeling in the entire audience was of relief that swept over the human sea when he turned from the subject to the religious character of the ceremonies. When the final sentence was spoken, and the orator sat down, round after round of applause broke at the departure of invited guests and the passage of resolutions of thanks to Mr. Blaine, the House adjourned.

#### MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Vice-President Duff, of the Hannibal & St. Joe Railroad, says Judge Miller's recent decision in the suit of the road vs. the State of Missouri contains as much that is favorable to the company as unfavorable, and leaves the amount in controversy between the State and company a comparatively small one. He says the situation is as follows: "The State has issued \$3,000,000 of 6-per-cent bonds in aid of the road. The road has paid the State \$3,000,000. The road claims that the use of \$3,000,000 by the State offsets the payment of interest of the State's bonds. The State claims it offsets only to the extent of interest actually earned on the \$3,000,000. The question then becomes merely one of difference of interest. The State has a large amount of 6-per-cent 5-20 bonds outstanding now subject to call, or liable to be called within a very short period. The Legislature passed a law last winter for the purpose of appropriating this \$3,000,000. That law required the State officers to apply it in redeeming these 5-20 bonds. The \$3,000,000 can thus be used, the greater part of it immediately, and the remainder of it within a very short time, in extinguishing the 6-per-cent indebtedness of the State. I suppose the State officers will now, of course, comply with their own law, and that in the meantime there will be no claim against the railroad company, except for the difference of interest."

THE Tobacco Manufacturers' Association of St. Louis has received a communication from the Signal Service headquarters at Washington, D. C., concerning frost warnings which have proved of advantage to Louisiana sugar-planters and may be valuable to tobacco-growers in this State. Gen. Hazen says: "Warnings could be sent about two days in advance of killing frosts, and if promptly circulated, would prevent loss to planters by enabling them to secure, at least, a portion of the crop. You are respectfully requested to consider this subject, and to inform me if such action on the part of the service would be beneficial to the tobacco interest of your section, and the length of time which should be covered each year by such forecasts. I have fully recognized the practical importance of this and similar work for the benefit of the agricultural interests of the country, but I have not been provided with sufficient force to carry out my views. I anticipate favorable action by Congress during the present session to increase the efficiency of the Signal Corps, and a much greater extension of the usefulness of this service to all interests affected by the weather conditions of the country may be expected."

Governor Crittenden has granted a full pardon to Frank A. Spencer, convicted at the September term, 1879, of the Pulaski Circuit Court, of murder in the second degree, for killing his step-father, Edward Galloway, and sentenced to thirty years in the Penitentiary. The facts laid before the Governor show that Galloway drank heavily, and that his treatment of young Spencer and his mother and sister was extremely cruel and brutal, and that the young man committed the crime in his defense. There is also a doubt as to whether the young man was 16 years of age at the time the killing was done. Nine of the jurors before whom he was tried sign the petition for his pardon, the other three having removed from the State.

Samuel L. Yourtee & Co., dealers in carriages at Kansas City, have filed a suit for damages against S. L. North. In their petition the plaintiffs state that they enjoyed a high financial reputation in the business centers of the United States, and that on the 29th day of November, 1881, North, wrongfully and without probable cause had an attachment issued against them. Also that the Sheriff levied upon carriages, buggies and other property to the value of \$30,000 to satisfy the writ. The plaintiffs claim that they were greatly injured in their business by reason of the attachment, that their customers were scattered and their credit injured. For this they ask damages in the sum of \$10,000.

The smoked tile cases have been reopened in the Circuit Court at St. Joseph. These cases involve the right to a large tract of land in the center of the city, which is purported to have been conveyed away from the rightful heirs by fraudulent and forged deeds.

Judge Laughlin, of St. Louis, granted a motion for a special venire from the county for jurors in the case of John D. Shea, under indictment for the murder of Officer Doran, and whose petition for a change of venue on the ground of alleged prejudice had been recently denied in the Circuit Court by Judge Lindley, who gave it as his opinion that there would be no difficulty in obtaining a jury in the City of St. Louis who would give Shea a perfectly fair trial.

The Cooper County Court has again made an order submitting to the people by ballot the question of a compromise of the straight Cooper County Tebo & Neosho Railroad bonds. This proposition is to refund 85 per cent. of principal and accrued interest, the bonds to bear 6 per cent. The day of election is set for Tuesday, March 21 proximo.

A swindler is abroad who is receiving \$5 a head from people who have been in slavery. He claims to be a Government agent employed to pension ex-slaves. In Holt County he succeeded in victimizing quite a number.

A tramp recently visited the residence of Mr. Peper, Lamonte, Pettis County, and finding no one about except Mrs. Peper and her little boy, demanded all the valuables in the house, presenting a cocked revolver. Mrs. Peper disarmed the fellow and forced him to retire.

M. I. Couch, proprietor of an extensive stable in St. Joseph, became involved financially in a d-d-p-h, and has fled with his family, after executing several bills of sale.

MR. S. Greenbaum, of Trenton, recently shipped 60,000 pounds of hides, making two car loads, the largest shipment ever made at one time from that place.

THE failure of Benedict, Malone & Co., wholesale grocers of Kansas City, who made an assignment to Charles Stewart & Co., of the Macon Bank failure, in which institution James Malone was a heavy stockholder. The firm assert they will pay dollar for dollar, and Mr. Benedict says he will reorganize and resume.

Jonathan P. Horton, who died recently in Altam, Oregon County, was born February 1, 1793. He was a soldier in the war of 1812. He enlisted under Capt. John Folger in 1810, and received an honorable discharge at the close of the war, in 1814.

A man in Mississippi County recently killed 113 muskrats in one day.

#### Republican Harmony.

The Whitelaw Reid correspondence recently published seems to have played havoc with the sweet disposition of the grand old party of morals and harmony. The statement in the *World* is not denied that the notorious communication from Whitelaw Reid to the late President Garfield, giving eccentric and extraordinary counsel, was furnished for publication by one of the closest friends of Mr. Garfield. The gentlemen who gave out the Reid dispatch for publication has personal cause for wrath against James G. Blaine. He is a representative of a large number of the friends of the deceased President who are determined that Mr. Blaine shall not make himself the heir to the popularity of Garfield or seize his political estate or administer upon it. It is also true that the tone of the American foreign policy of the United States has been changed because the bold, vigorous American purpose which generally pervaded the State papers of Mr. Blaine was making it was feared, the name of the ex-Secretary too strong in the popular talk of the hour, and was putting up the Blaine stock in the political market. Blaine early confronts the hostility of the Administration on the one hand and of friends of Garfield on the other. In several respects the Administration is enlarging its borders and strengthening its stakes. It proposes to have an organ at the National capital in absolutely friendly hands. The controversy between the Stalwarts and Half-breeds is smoldering but not quiescent. The President has been so apprehensive of the influence of the radical Stalwarts, as being interpreted to exclude himself, his thoughts and policy, that it is understood his willow chum, George Bliss, has bought the *National Republican*, which was at the same time an Arthur and a Star-route organ. The influence of this paper in the community of Washington to deaden local public opinion upon the mail transactions of Hayes' Administration was felt to be fatal to the pending prosecutions. Hence the rumor of its purchase by Bliss caused more than one sad heart to cease to ache. It seems further to show that Administrations are prone to fall back on the old style of organ of the days of Gales and Secaton and Blair and Rives. Mr. Gorham has been too hot an editor for the Attorney-General's Department to counteract. Persons affecting to speak the secrets of the White House say the President is decidedly averse to seeing Governor Cornell get a second term, while Cornell will be satisfied with nothing else and is too much of a quantity in the country districts to be opposed without serious consequences, while his well known hostility to Mr. Arthur would make him, with the large patronage of the Governor's office in 1884, a probable competitor for the Presidency and a rallying center for the Half-breeds. Mr. Arthur is said to prefer Mr. Starin. He is equally displeased with Mr. Tom Platt, and recently, it is charged, sent him bootless home from an errand at the White House. Collector Robertson has made a quasi peace with the President. His private favorite is Mr. Crowley. And so while Blaine is perspiring between the flames kindled on the one hand by potential friends of Garfield, and the Administration furnace already glowing for his discomfort on the other, the Administration buys an organ to conduct the contest against an ex-Secretary of State, against the Governor of the President's State and against a Garfield wing of his party. Blaine has two great fights on his hands within his party. The President has on his hands the fight with Blaine and that with the Half-breeds, and the fight with Governor Cornell is to be added to these. The Half-breeds have the fight with the Administration, and a large portion of them have begun a fight with Blaine. The party has three quarrels to bear and there is uneasiness in the camp.—*Hartford Times*.

#### The Existing Civil-Service System.

When President Garfield was shot the universal opinion was that the spoils system furnished the motive which prompted the assassin Guitauet. The assassin has been tried and convicted, and in a short time will undoubtedly forfeit his life as a penalty for the crime. But the spoils system, demoralizing, pernicious and blighting, thrives as luxuriantly as it did when Guitauet leveled his pistol at the Nation's Executive, and the strife for spoils is as heated and unseemly as it then was. Congress assembled but a few weeks after the conspicuous victim of the system was consigned to his tomb amid the lamentations of the country. The tragedy, its cause and the actors were known to each member. Were there any possibility that the recollection of the terrible event would so soon fade from the minds of the Senators and Representatives, they have had constant reminders every day since the session opened in the proceedings which have taken place in a court-room but a short distance from the Capitol where they assemble. Still, from the general apathy which is manifested, it would seem that members of Congress think the shooting of a President of too small moment to give them concern for the reform of a system which has raised up an army of spoliemen, unloosed political freebooters without number upon the country, made Senators and Representatives chiefs of factions who engage in predatory raids upon the public Treasury, and, as a finishing stroke, has presented an assassin as one of its natural products.

There are, undoubtedly, difficulties in the way of effecting a reform of the Civil Service by legislation, but if Congress should be governed by a rule not to undertake any work to which there are obstacles, it would abdicate some of its most important functions and acknowledge itself to be an almost superfluous branch of the Government. The fact that there are difficulties ought to be an incentive to the members of Congress to address themselves the more speedily and more earnestly to the question. There is no doubt that Congress could do a great deal to place the Civil Service upon a footing at once more permanent and more honorable; and if it could not bind the President by law in the matter of appointments, it could establish rules so salutary that he would not feel at liberty to disregard them, or if he did would be condemned by public opinion.

#### That "Model" Administration.

The Model Administration of Hayes, concerning which so much has been said, does not seem to stand investigation as well as a "model" should. Reference has already been made in the *Free Press* to the maladministration disclosed in the Star-route fraud and other evils of a similar nature; but recent developments surpass even those gigantic robberies in the amount of odium thrown upon the Hayes Administration.

The chief glory of that Administration next to the total—or nearly total—abstinence at the White House, was the Cabinet; and it is this glory which is now being shorn of its glory. It looks as though in addition to the exposure of the tricky Sherman as a fraud, the fame of the "bright particular star" in the Cabinet would be taken away as secured on false pretenses. It is not quite easy to be reconciled all at once to the theory that the amiable, unassuming doctrine of the Interior Department was a jobber, or the tool of jobbers; but his course in relation to the Northern Pacific land grants can hardly be explained upon any other theory—even upon that of guileless innocence or absolute ignorance.

It is not to be wondered at, perhaps, that an Administration which was founded on fraud of the most colossal description should have been, in so many essential particulars, fraudulent. But it is to be wondered at, with all these facts coming to light, that men still speak of Hayes' Administration as a model of purity.—*Exchange*.

"Poor man," exclaimed the Good Samaritan, feeling for his loose change and depositing a quarter in the tramp's extended palm; "how my heart bleeds for you. You will go and get something to eat now?" "Not immediately," answered the grateful wanderer; "I stole a bottle of whisky this morning, and I've been begging all day to try and get money enough to buy a corkscrew."—*Brooklyn Eagle*.

Except during the pendency of political campaigns, the office-holder under the present spoils system may have his whole time for the performance of his duties to the Government. But during political campaigns, which on the whole occupy fully one-fourth of the time of the politicians, and obtain a considerable share of popular attention for about the same period, the office-holder must act upon the knowledge that he is the servant of the party in power as well of the public, and attest his allegiance to the former in every way that may be required of him. And this is but the beginning of his humiliation. Dependent upon a "boss" for his place, he must carry himself as a personal henchman, and bend all his energies to the furtherance of the schemes of his political owner. If his superiors in office have axes to grind—if they fancy they merit promotion—he must turn the crank for them, or risk their displeasure and his own removal. In short, office-holding, under the spoils system, is dependent largely upon intrigue and combination, and plot and counter-plot play a conspicuous part. The result is that the Government is neither as well nor as economically served as it ought to be. Members of Congress are perfectly cognizant of all the evils of the spoils system. Some of them pretend to have a great desire for a change, but with remarkably few honorable exceptions, the conduct of Senators and Representatives show that their professions are hypocritical, and that at heart they desire no reform or change in the Civil Service system.—*Detroit Free Press*.

#### A Supposititious Congratulatory Letter.

The following congratulatory supposititious communication from Schuyler Colfax to James F. Wilson, recently elected United States Senator from Iowa, appears in the *N. Y. Sun* of a recent date.

MY DEAR WILSON: I have watched with the deepest interest the proceedings of the Iowa Legislature, and beg leave to offer my most sincere congratulations upon your election to the Senate. I am often called upon to fill positions of great responsibility in our little community, and so general is the appreciation of my repugnance to such positions that my townsmen never pay anything for my services. In fact, I favorably volunteer them. Here in the State which has honored me so much I am under no delusion as to the value of my abilities is recognized. Some time the party, the country, will also understand me. In a spirit of patience, of Christian forbearance and meekness, I bide the time when a returning sense of justice shall have assured my triumphant vindication, when I shall burst forth from the darkness of my temporary retirement like the sun, smiling brightly through dark clouds.

To you, my dear Wilson, time has brought ample reparation. I am encouraged as I think of your position in 1873 was, I am glad to remember, substantially the same as mine. We were both of us victims of that designing Aeneas. We got our stock in the same way, and we were both of us in the same way. We both sought in the bosom of our States a shelter from the attacks of an insouciant press. May I not hope that I, too, shall return to public life.

I am always glad to hear of the success of the old Civil Mobilizer crowd. My heart goes out to them warmly. And, take it all in all, they have been pretty lucky, with the exception of my unfortunate self. I don't see any immediate prospect of returning to the House or Senate. Indeed, I am not identified to any extent with the politics of Indiana. I depend on you to do some things for me. I am not involved in any of the unhappy quarrels which have injured the party, and I can be of considerable service to anybody. Can't you get me a diplomatic post of some kind? I have always thought that, with my tact, business and variety of looking innocent when I am cornered, I should shine as a diplomatist. The way things look now I should prefer the Peruvian or the Chilean mission. Can't you get me Haribut's term? Perhaps you could do better for me, and they would like to see the grand question treated in a statesmanlike manner. There is always a chance in Peru of getting mining claims, and against the Government, etc. I am a poor man.

Mention my name to Arthur, and show him how much his recognition of me would tend to reunite the party. If you can get me Peru, get me Chile, or even Venezuela. Or, could give me some points by which I might make a little something in the latter country. I won't take a Consulate—if there is any chance of anything better.

By the way, do any of the railroads for which you are working give way stock to public men? Perhaps you could do better for me in that way. Or don't railroads do business in the way they did in '69?

Remember me to Blair, of New Hampshire, who I am glad to see is following in the footsteps of his predecessor, my dear friend Rufus Patterson.

God bless you in your new career. Don't forget about the guano. Yours affectionately, S. C.

To the Hon. James F. Wilson.

How does it happen that the same Legislature should elect a man who is so full of passes? I suppose they act in the interest of the railroads, but it is a bad precedent. Don't forget about Peru. S. C.

That "Model" Administration.

The Model Administration of Hayes, concerning which so much has been said, does not seem to stand investigation as well as a "model" should. Reference has already been made in the *Free Press* to the maladministration disclosed in the Star-route fraud and other evils of a similar nature; but recent developments surpass even those gigantic robberies in the amount of odium thrown upon the Hayes Administration.

The chief glory of that Administration next to the total—or nearly total—abstinence at the White House, was the Cabinet; and it is this glory which is now being shorn of its glory. It looks as though in addition to the exposure of the tricky Sherman as a fraud, the fame of the "bright particular star" in the Cabinet would be taken away as secured on false pretenses. It is not quite easy to be reconciled all at once to the theory that the amiable, unassuming doctrine of the Interior Department was a jobber, or the tool of jobbers; but his course in relation to the Northern Pacific land grants can hardly be explained upon any other theory—even upon that of guileless innocence or absolute ignorance.

It is not to be wondered at, perhaps, that an Administration which was founded on fraud of the most colossal description should have been, in so many essential particulars, fraudulent. But it is to be wondered at, with all these facts coming to light, that men still speak of Hayes' Administration as a model of purity.—*Exchange*.

"Poor man," exclaimed the Good Samaritan, feeling for his loose change and depositing a quarter in the tramp's extended palm; "how my heart bleeds for you. You will go and get something to eat now?" "Not immediately," answered the grateful wanderer; "I stole a bottle of whisky this morning, and I've been begging all day to try and get money enough to buy a corkscrew."—*Brooklyn Eagle*.